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Dora Hall to Sarah Bracher, 7 June 1900

692 Hay St West Perth

June 7th 1900

My dear Sister

To our great surprise your nephew Gerald Hester came in yesterday afternoon & told me he was just starting for Melbourne & asked me for your address, which I gave him & also that of your son Golden Square, Bendigo. He had been chatting here in the morning & his plans were then quite different he came to a very sudden resolve & I hope a wise one, he said he had met some friends who had advised him to go. I myself think a change of air & scene will effect more than medicine or doctors can. So you will be on the lookout for Gerald. It is his first trip out of W.A. & I do not know whether he knows any one on the steamer for he was afraid of losing his train so I could not detain him to ask any questions.

He says he is in very good health & looks well & weighs 12 stone, but he requires advice on some point which I suppose he can obtain better in Melbourne.

You say Flora's sisters do not know her address & are distressed on that account but those who do not know her address could easily get it if they wished. Flora is living at Shearer Street, Highgate, she has charge of her poor Sister Louisa's two boys, she is paid by the Executors of Mr Carey's will for keeping them. Mr Stevenson was from home the last time I saw any of the boys. Flora appears not to wish us to go there & she has not been here for months. We have uniformly shewn them every kindness & she used to be coming here or writing to me every week. She now tells all her relations that she does not wish to see them that she hears from her father & mother & acts by their desire. I am sure if her poor dear mother were permitted to hear & see her she would be deeply grieved. I think her mind has become unhinged through dwelling on imaginary wrongs & perhaps from giving herself up to designing persons, "Spiritualists". She told me she held constant communication with her mother. Some of her relations say she is mad. I am of opinion that if mad, there is at least

“Method in her Madness” long ago she said in this house that “she would be like Aunt Amelia have nothing to do with her relations”. I have told you truthfully all this I suppose it is better you should know. Gerald can tell you where she lives. I took Jessica there some months ago & her husband has often been there so it is nonsense for them to say they do not know her address.

With best love to yourself & dear Fanny

Yours aff^{ly}

D Hall

I think it wicked to have anything to do with Fortune tellers or Spiritualists I think those who frequent them forfeit all their hopes of Heaven. In any case I do not think they have any right to Our Heavenly Father’s protection here.